



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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FALL '97 ELECTIONS: CITY & COUNTY CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here is another in our series of reports and updates about city & county municipal elections slated for November of 1997. This week: a controversial ballot measure in San Francisco...

...Should *campaign consultants* be required to register anytime they work on a political campaign within the city & county of San Francisco? That's the question being asked of voters Nov. 4th when Measure G will appear on the ballot. This measure is sponsored by S.F. Co. Sup. Tom Ammiano, who is in the 3rd year of his first term. In real life Ammiano is a stand-up comic, but consultants who would be impacted if this measure were approved aren't laughing...

...In fact, some 46 consultants (including John Whitehurst, Richard Schlackman, Terris & Jaye, Paul Kinney, Richie Ross, Solem & Associates, Staton, Hughes & Shafer, Gale Kaufman, Kamer/Singer, Robert Barnes and even retired consultant Clint Reilly) have formed *San Franciscans Opposed to Excessive Regulation*. This coalition has hired Jo Kunney to serve as daily mgr. of the NO on G campaign. The big question is whether the consultants will be able to raise a credible war chest in order to fight G? Remember: Consultants barely *lifted a finger* to fight Prop. 208 last November, even though it dramatically impacted their business...

...What would Measure G do? According to *The Committee for Honest Elections* (YES on G), it would require anyone earning \$1,000 or more in a campaign to register. The proposal requires the reporting of all fees. Failure to comply could result in fines up to \$5,000 and conviction would be a misdemeanor. The S.F. Ethics Commission would be the agency in charge and they could ban a consultant from working in the city for up to a year. NO on G forces say no new info

will be gained by this measure because the information is already a part of each campaign report filed by the various candidates & committees. That's why the NO side sees "G" as excessive regulation...

...FYI: this proposal passed the Board of Supes by 1 vote, but was vetoed by Mayor Willie Brown. Ammiano then got the signatures of Sups. Susan Bierman, Gavin Newsom and Leland Yee and that's how it got on the ballot. Sources say Bierman has now flip-flopped and is opposed to G. Stay tuned...

END OF 1st HALF OF 1997-98 LEGISLATIVE SESSION. CALPEEK'S LIST OF POLITICAL WINNERS & LOSERS.

Editor's note: If one were to place a grade on the first half of the current 1997-98 Calif. Legislative session, our sources would give it an A, given the number of pro-family, pro-education and pro-children bills which were sent to Gov. Pete Wilson's desk. Two weeks ago, the best grade would have been a C. The fact is a lot was accomplished in the closing hours of the session. So for what it's worth, here is *Calpeek's* list of *Winners & Losers*...

◆ *The Big Winner* - Demos & GOP sources agree that the big winner was Gov. Pete Wilson, who may be a *lame duck*, but doesn't act like it. With help from key legislators and his veto power, Wilson got his \$1.7 billion tax cut; got most of what he wanted in the area of welfare reform; the Children's Health Access bill was approved; and Wilson got his Statewide school testing bill. Special interest big winners were Silicon Valley and the aerospace industry because of the R&D breaks in the new tax bill...

◆ *The Go-To Guy* - The lawmaker who turned Wilson's tax cut plan into *legislative reality* was former GOP Speaker Curt Pringle of Garden Grove. If only

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his political skills were as good as his legislative prowess he might still be Speaker. GOP Assembly Leader Bill Leonard gets credit too, because he empowered Pringle to make the tax deal work...

● **The Demo Duet** - State Senate Leader Bill Lockyer(D) comes out of this first half of the session as the #1 Demo in Sacramento. Lockyer got his trial court funding bill and after 5 years finally got a win for his bill to regulate Calif.'s \$8 billion per year card club industry. As for Demo Assembly Speaker Cruz Bustamante, he still has his detractors, but gets credit because the legislative accomplishments which took place occurred *on his watch*...

◆ **All Alone & Bored** - If there was a loser during the first half of the session, it would be GOP Senate Leader Rob Hurtt of Orange Co. The word "bored" comes from Hurtt himself in an extraordinary interview with Mark Katches & Daniel Weintraub of the *Orange Co. Register*. GOP sources describe the story as *open mouth, insert foot --- shoot foot*. The question is not whether Hurtt is replaced in January, but rather by whom. Our guess is either Ross Johnson or Jim Brulte. That final after-session photo with Wilson, Bustamante, Lockyer, Leonard & Pringle *said it all*. Hurtt was MIA, but not missed because he didn't really contribute anything...

◆ **Trust Me** - Cost of living pay raises for State employees isn't a done deal -- yet. Gov. Wilson has given his word on a pay hike, but negotiations continue with 21 different unions representing State workers...

◆ **The Bill to Watch** - AB 62 by Tom McClintock (R) and Bob Hertzberg(D) makes cityhood for the **San Fernando Valley** just a little bit easier. If in fact the SF Valley were break away from L.A. via a citywide vote, as required under this bill, it would become the 6th largest city in the U.S. The big question is whether Gov. Wilson will sign AB 62 into law???

● **Unfinished Business** - HMO reform; the big school construction bond measure (\$10-20 billion); and the Assault Weapons rewrite (AB 23)...

◆ **Political Junkies Favorite Bill** - SB 49 by Sen. Betty Karnette(D-Long Beach) will see electronic filing

of campaign reports on the *Internet* in this next cycle on a voluntary basis and mandatory by 2000. A big win for SOS Bill Jones(R), who championed SB 49...

◆ **Full Metal Jacket** - If Gov. Wilson signs SB 500 (to ban the manufacture & sale of cheap handguns), it will be huge win for advocates of stronger gun control. Most of the other 6-7 bills on the governor's desk are of a technical nature, such as AB 991, but are important when viewing the whole picture...

◆ **Calif.'s Booming Economy** - Most sources agree that much of the legislative success was due to Calif.'s very healthy economy. As one source noted, "It's easier to spend than to cut." Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: ODDS & ENDS FROM AROUND CALIF.
Editor's note: Here's another update on some recent campaign developments...

☒ **Governor's Race** - Although the Sacto BEE reported it weeks ago, on Sept. 17th State Sen. John Vasconcellos(D-San Jose) began a 6-week exploratory effort to see if there's enough support for him to seek the Demo nomination for governor. The HQ is at 980 9th St., Ste. 2140, Sacto 95814. ☎ (916)838-9496. Website: www.best.com/~jv4gov/. Exploratory cmp. mgr. is Rich Robinson of Cupertino...

...Among those listed as Vasco supporters are 5 State senators(Johnston, Kopp, Lee, Polanco & Alpert), 6 Assemblymembers(Perata, Alquist, Aroner, Bowen, Escutia & Honda). Also listed is former Congressman Jerry Waldie and U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters. Lots of professional educators, social workers, healthcare pros/MDs and some business types. How much support is there for a Vasco candidacy? Probably not that much, but Vasco has wanted to do this for more than 30 years and he'll probably run. His big problem is financial and Prop. 208 doesn't make things any easier. But if 208 were declared unconstitutional - one angel *with deep pockets* could make a big difference...

...Demo businessman Al Checchi will speak to the Comstock Club in Sacto, 12 noon, Sept. 23rd. Checchi's topic: *governing Calif. in the 21st century*. The timing looks right for an announcement. The location is certainly right and it's late September - which is when

Checchi said he would make an announcement about running for governor...

☒ **GOP U.S. Senate Race Update** - Sources report that a political operative who works for U.S. Senate hopeful Matt Fong did in fact travel to San Diego in mid January (1/22/97) of this year and requested the city clerk to make copies of Mayor Susan Golding's fundraising reports. The operative paid a total of \$100 to the city clerks office --- and according to sources --- still has a balance owing of \$88. The \$188 invoice shows up among the bills paid by Fong's Treasurer's committee --- and **not** from the U.S. Senate account. **Calpeek** suggested this could be a smoking gun in our Sept. 8th issue of the newsletter. Stay tuned...

L.A. CO. SUP. YVONNE BURKE TO DISCUSS TRENDS.

L.A. Co. Sup. Yvonne Burke will discuss "Trends in L.A.," 7 p.m., Sept. 25 at Waite Phillips Hall on the campus of the USC. Burke's speech is sponsored by USC's Unruh Inst. of Politics. For info ☎(213)740-8964...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: 3 MORE MEASURES GIVEN OK TO CIRCULATE PETITIONS FOR 1998 BALLOT.

Editor's note: Here's a brief update on 3 new initiatives which has been given the OK to gather signatures for 1998...

♦ **Casino Gambling. Initiative Constitutional Amendment** is the 2nd measure which would allow Nevada-styled casino gaming in Calif. The first initiative is by Palm Springs developer Mark Bragg. This initiative is sponsored by John Brown & Robert Wilson, who have been trying for years to qualify a gaming initiative for Calif.'s ballot. The Brown/Wilson plan would create an experimental project for California City in Kern Co. and an additional location on Indian land --- at a reservation selected by qualified tribes. The measure also would establish a 3-member gaming commission. Brown/Wilson have until Jan. 16, 1998, to gather 693,230 signatures. They can be reached at ☎(805)983-2238...

♦ **Wildlife. Body-gripping Traps Ban. Animal Poisons. Initiative Statute** is the official title of this initiative by Alan Hugh Berger of the Animal Protection Inst. and A. Aaron Medlock of Protect Pets & Wildlife. In addition to banning traps & poisons, it

would be unlawful for any person to buy, sell or exchange the raw fur of such trapped animals for profit. Berger can be reached at ☎(916)731-5521. The proponents have until Feb. 5, 1998 to collect 433,269 valid signatures...

♦ **Corporate Campaign Contribution Ban. Lobbying Expenses Not Deductible. Initiative Statute** is the official title of this measure which goes by the name of *The Anti-Corrupt Practices Act of 1998*. The proponent is Howard L. Owens of Sacto (no phone). The ban in this proposal applies to all State and local elections. Owens has until Feb. 5, 1998, to collect 433,269 valid signatures. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Sept. 25-28	DNC meeting, Washington DC.
Sept. 25-27	9th annual Envisioning Calif. Conference at the Capitol Plaza Holiday Inn, Sacramento.
Sept. 26-28	Calif. Republican Party state convention at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel.
Oct. 15	Prop. 208 trial begins in U.S. District Court, Sacramento.
Oct. 23	U.S. Rep. Jay Kim to be sentenced in connection with his guilty plea to campaign reporting violations, L.A. Federal Court.
Oct. 23	L.A. Business Council Leadership L.A. Media Seminar, Santa Monica.
Oct. 26	End of daylight savings time.
Nov. 4	Election Day - S.F. City Attorney & Treasurer; + other local elections.
Nov. 7-8	Christian Coalition of Calif., Road To Victory Calif. Conference, Long Beach.
Nov. 16-19	IAPC Annual Conf., Buenos Aires.
Nov. 18	46th AD Special Election (primary).
Dec. 3-5	Sessions on Tourism & Future of Western Legislatures. Sponsored by Council of State Govts.- West. Kohala Coast, Hawaii.
Dec. 5-9	Council of State Govts. annual meeting, Honolulu.
Dec. 6-8	Nat'l League of Cities meeting, Philadelphia.
Jan. 26-28	Amer. Assn. of Political Consultants Winter Conf., Fairmont Hotel, S.F.

HUMAN RIGHTS LECTURE SERIES AT SOKA UNIV.

Former U.S. Atty. Gen. Ed Meese will debate ACLU Pres. Nadine Strossen at 7 p.m., Oct. 13, on the Soka University campus in Calabasas. The event is free and kicks off the beginning of the Soka's Human Rights Lecture Series. For info ☎(818)878-3780...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting. P.S. It's now fall and the dog days of summer are once again behind us...

■ ***DiFi Says No More Uzis, Please*** - U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) has written a letter to Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, urging him to stop Israeli Military Industries Ltd. from selling 10,000 Uzi and Galil semi-automatic rifles in the U.S. IMI just got the OK from the Bureau of ATF to sell these weapons under a joint venture with U.S.-based O.F. Mossberg & Sons. DiFi's letter made front page news...

■ ***Bilingual Education Update - English for the Children***, the committee pushing an initiative to end bilingual education, has collected more than half the required signatures needed to qualify for the ballot next year. But the measure continues to cause nightmares for GOPers because they fear that if they support this plan, it might add to the feeling among new immigrant voters, especially Latinos, that the Calif. Republican Party is *anti immigrant*. And sources report the Republican Assembly Caucus nearly adopted a resolution opposing this initiative. It will be interesting to see what happens Sept. 26-28 when the Calif. Republican Party holds its fall convention in Anaheim. Will there be a resolution adopted supporting this measure (as many activists want) or will the CRP leadership postpone a vote until next February???

■ ***Baugh Preliminary Delayed, Again*** - It's possible that scheduling conflicts will cause more delays in the preliminary hearing for Assemblyman Scott Baugh(R-Huntington Beach), charged with 5 felony perjury counts and 13 misdemeanor campaign reporting violations, arising from the '95 recall election of Doris Allen. HOWEVER, reliable sources tell Calpeek that Baugh's legal team has again written the DA, asking that the charges be dropped. The one key difference in this new request: Baugh's team claims to have a new statement from Dan Traxler, Baugh's 1995 campaign treasurer. He is a key witness, but his conflicting testimony caused the original indictment to be thrown out. If Traxler has done a complete about-face (clearing Baugh), prosecutors may have to re-think their case against the Assemblyman...

■ ***Special Election Called in 46th AD*** - Gov. Pete Wilson has set Nov. 18th as the primary election date in a special to replace Assemblyman Louis Caldera(D). If a runoff is required, it will be held Jan. 13th. The leading Demo contenders are L.A. School Board member Vickie Castro and former union leader Gilbert Cedillo...

■ ***Dumb & Dumber Award*** - To KCBS-TV in L.A. On its 6 p.m. newscast on Saturday, Sept. 13th, the station ran a short story about a brouhaha involving Compton Mayor Omar Bradley. For about 5 seconds there was a rear-screen projection of a photo of 5-star Gen. Omar Bradly of WWII fame. Same name, but that's it. No wonder this station's news remains a weak 3rd in the ratings among O&O stations...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● Gov. Pete Wilson(R) has appointed his law school classmate, James M. Hall, as the new chair of the CA FPPC. Hall, 63, takes office on Oct. 1st...

● The Nat'l Assn. of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials(NALEO) Educational Fund has moved its national HQ to 5800 S. Eastern Ave., Ste. 365, L.A. 90040. ☎(213)720-1932...

● Stepping down in March: San Mateo Co. Bd. of Supes Clerk Richard L. Silver. First appointed in 1989, Silver is the former county Demo Party chair and has been active in politics for more than 20 years...

● Anita S. Zusman has been named VP/Legislative Affairs for the L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce...

● The Santa Monica-based pr firm of PS Enterprises has hired Chuck Ellis as CAO and Jeffrey Prang as Director of Business Development. Ellis, ex P/A director at the LADWP, replaces Michael Jimenez, who is L.A. Councilwoman Cindy Miscikowski's new chief deputy. Prang, a new West Hollywood councilman, was Director of Community Affairs for L.A. Councilwoman Ruth Galanter...

● Jason A. Kimbrough has been hired as an Asst. AE in the Sacto office of Edelman PR Worldwide...